



IUScholarWorks at Indiana University South Bend

## The Snowplows

Chaney, Joseph R.

To cite this poem: Chaney, Joseph R. "The Snowplows." *The Valparaiso Review* **20**:2 June 2019.

This document has been made available through IUScholarWorks repository, a service of the Indiana University Libraries. Copyrights on documents in IUScholarWorks are held by their respective rights holder(s). Contact [iusw@indiana.edu](mailto:iusw@indiana.edu) for more information.

## Joseph Chaney: “The Snowplows”

---

### THE SNOWPLOW

Snowplows move back and forth along the streets,  
as if scanning, or cleaning memory,  
scraping the surface, driving snow and slush  
to the curb. After the big weekend storm,  
the trucks have the neighborhood to themselves.  
I can hear them from my bed. I can tell  
when one crosses Sunnyside, turns around  
in the cul-de-sac, and gears up again.  
If I were a snowplow operator,  
this would be my favorite time of day.  
Clearing the roads for others, living in  
the now before anything meaningful  
happens, they're making things ready, not yet  
thinking of what, or needing to know why.